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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Darby, et al.

Serial No.: 09/942,624 ✓

Art Unit: 2632

Filed: August 31, 2001 ✓

Examiner: D. Crosland

Title: A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTED NETWORKS HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY, ESPECIALLY RAILWAYS

AMENDMENT

The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
JAN 13 2003
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 9, 2002, please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 51, without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 22, 29, 41, 43, 44, 52, 54, 55 and 57 as follows:

sub. cl
Pl
cont.

22 (Amended) A method of determining a physical order of plural railcars in a train consist where the railcars are connected to each other through a pneumatic brake pipe and an RF communication link and where the train consist includes at least one head end unit (HEU), comprising the steps of:

a. transmitting a pneumatic pressure pulse along the brake pipe from a selected HEU to the other railcars;